

thrusting the chip using pins from a back side of the adhesive tape with the adhesive tape between the chip and the pins, and keeping the pins at a peak position for an amount of time to facilitate peeling the chip off the adhesive tape, wherein the pins do not pierce the adhesive tape;

descending a collet from the adhesive side of the adhesive tape to contact and suck the chip when the chip is peeled off the adhesive tape; and

picking the chip up by ascending the collet.

REMARKS

By the present Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 13 to more appropriately define aspects of their invention. By this amendment, no new matter has been added.

I. Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner required a restriction of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §121. The Examiner alleges that claims 1-20 are directed to the following distinct combinations, characterized by the Examiner as follows:

Group I, claims 1-12 and claims 17-19, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass 344;

Group II, claims 13-16 and 20, drawn to a process, classified in class 438, subclass 106+.

During a telephone conversation with the Examiner on July 15, 2002, Applicants proposed regrouping claims 1-20 as follows:

Group I, claims 1-12 and claims 17-19;

Group II, claims 13-16;